

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 SMS-01 EB-08 COME-00 /082 W  
-----095950 151249Z /53

R 150709Z AUG 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6777  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY OSFIA  
USICA WASHDC

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EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: PROP PL US  
SUBJ: POLISH MEDIA STEP UP ATTACKS ON "DEGENERATE" U.S. AND WEST

1. DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS THE POLISH PRESS HAS MADE SPECIAL EFFORTS TO PAINT THE PICTURE OF A WEST IN RAPID MORLA DECAY, PLAGUED BY WAIVES OF CROMES AND DEGENERACY ESPECIALLY AMONG UNEMPLOYED YOUTH. THE UNITED STATES IS EXHIBIT A IN THIS ACCUSATORY CAMPAIGN.

2. THE UPSURGE IN THE NUMBER AND NASTINESS OF ARTICLES CRITICAL OF THE US IS ESPECIALLY NOTICEABLE IN TRYBUNA LUDU THE DAILY ORGAN OF THE PZPR, AND ZYCIE WARSZAWY, AN "INDEPENDENT" MASS CIRCULATION PAPER. HOWEVER, OTHER WARSAW DAILIES AND NEWSPAPERS  
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IN THE HINTERLANDS HAVE ALSO INCREASED THE AMOUNT OF SPACE DEVOTED TO THE UNITED STATES, MAINLY BY RUNNING MORE OF THE DAILY QUOTA OF MATERIAL ON AMERICAN TOPICS PUT OUT BY THE POLISH NEWS AGENCY (PAP.)

3. TWO THEMES PREDOMINATE IN RECENT POLISH TREATMENT OF

THE US DOMESTIC SITUATION: THE INJUSTICE OF THE AMERICAN SOCIAL SYSTEM AND THE DEGRADATION OF SIGNIFICANT SEGMENTS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. ALTHOUGH THE MESSAGE IS CRUDE, THE MEANS EMPLOYED TO CONVEY IT ARE RAHTER CLEVER BECAUSE THE NEGATIVE STORIES ARE, IN PART, BASED ON NON-COMMUNIST U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN SOURCES, PASSED, OF COURSE, THROUGH THE PRISM OF COMMUNIST DOGMA. FOR EXAMPLE, TRYBUNA LUDU'S US CORRESPONDENT, WLODZIMIERZ LOZINSKI, IS PARTICULARLY INDUSTRIOUS IN REGURGITATION SLECTED PORTIONS OF GOVERNMENT REPORTS, SPEECHES BY PRMINENT US FIGURES, AND US AND OTHER WESTERN NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES TO "DEMONSTRATE" THE INHERENT UNFAIRNESS AND IMPLICITY, THE INCORRIGIBILITY OF U.S. SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS.

4. LOZINSKI AND OTHER HAVE ALSO CITED THE COMMUNIST-DOMUNATED WFTU'S ALLEGATIONS OF U.S. OFFICIALS VIOLATIONS OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS AND REPRESSION AGAINST "PROGRESSIVE LABOR ACTIVITIS IN PUERTO RICO, FILED WITH THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN GENEVA; THE CHARGE MADE AT THE SAME FORUM THAT THE USG PURSUES A GENOCIDAL POLICY TOWARDS INDIANS; AND THE STATEMENTS OF UN AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG AND CALIFORNIA CONGRESMAN FORTNEY STARK CONCERNING POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE UNITES STATES. THE OBVIOUS AIM IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO DEPICT AN AMERICAN SOCIETY RIVEN BY INEQUALITY, WITH WOMEN, BLACKS, LATINOS, INDIANS, AND ASIANS THE VICTIMS OF BRUTAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION.

5. THE LOT OF YOUTH IN THE WEST IS DEPICTED AS ESPECIALLY BLEAK. WITHIN THE PAST THREE WEEKS, TRYBUNA LUDU HAS TWICE DEVOTED A FULL PAGE TO EXCERPTS FROM 1977 ARTICLES IN THE WESTERN PRESS DESCRIBING THE ILLS OF UNEMPLOYMENT, DRUG ADDICTION, AND DESPAIR THAT AFFLICT WESTERN, IN PARTICULAR, AMERICAN YTUTH. SZTANDAR MLODYCH, AS BEFITS ITS ROLE AS A STUDENT PAPER, HAD MADE REPORTAGE ON THE PLIGHT OF YOUTH IN THE WEST A SPECIALITY. THE HOPELESSNESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WEST IS CONTRASTED IMPLICITLY AND EXPLICITLY WITH THE ROSY FUTURE THAT AWAITS THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

6. IN THE AMERICAN PORTRAYED IN THE POLISH PRESS, CRIME IS OMNIPRESENT. THE CONSTANTLY RISING WAVE OF CRIMINALITY THREATENS THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE AVERAGE US

CITIZEN. NOT ONLY DOES HE FALL PREY TO THE VIOLENT ASSUALTS OF DESPERATE MEMBERS OF MINORITY GROUPS, BUT ORGANIZED CRIME SAPS HIS LIKEHOOD AS IT RANSACKS THE US ECONOMY. ON AUGUST 9, FOR EXAMPLE, PAP USED A DER SPIEGEL REPORT ON THE OUTBREAK OF MAFIA INTERNAL WARFARE TO ALLEGE THAT ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE US REAPS \$50 BILLION PROFITS A YEAR, HALF OF WHICH IS USED TO BRIBE POLITICIAN AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SO THAT THE GANGS CAN STAY IN BUSINESS.

7. COMMENT: WE RECENTLY OBTAINED A COPY OF A MAY 1978 PAMPHLET ASSEMBED BY THE PZPR CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR INSTRUCTIONAL USE BY THE PARTY IDEOLOGICAL ACTIVISTS. THIS PAMPHLET (A COPY OF WHICH HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN POUCHED TO EUR/EE) CONCENTRATED ON THE MAIN THEMES NOTED ABOVE. IT THUS SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE RECENT ANTI-US OFFENSIVE IN THE POLISH MEDIA HAS BEEN UNLEASHED BY AN EXPLICIT PARTY DIRECTIVE.

8. WE SURMISE THAT THE CAMPAIGN REPRESENTS A DIVERSIONARY COUNTERATTACK, PERHAPS ULTIMATELY AT SOVIET INSTIGATION, AGAINST US AND WESTERN CRITICIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE BY THE USSR AND, SECONDARILY, OTHER EE GOVERNMENTS. IT MAY ALSO SIGNIFY AN EFFORT TO DEFLECT THE SWELLING CURRENTS OF DISSATISFACTION WITH THE STATE OF POLISH AFFAIRS AMONG THE POPULACE. HOWEVER, THE THEMES OF INQUALITY AND MORAL DECAY IN THE WEST ARE OLD CHESTNUTS OF COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA, AND THE POLISH PUBLIC NORMALLY APPLIES A SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNT FACTOR TO WHATEVER IS PRESENTED BY THE OFFICIAL MEDIA. SCHAUFEELE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION MEDIA, PROPAGANDA, YOUTH, CRIMES, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING  
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**Draft Date:** 15 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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